

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, on behalf of myself and the distinguished Republican leader, Mr. McCONNELL, I send to the desk a resolution authorizing representation by the Senate Legal Counsel and ask for its immediate consideration.

Mr. President, this resolution concerns a lawsuit filed in Federal court in Florida that names a range of local, State, and Federal defendants, including Senator RUBIO. Plaintiff's sole allegation against Senator RUBIO is that he did not respond to plaintiff's request to introduce legislation that plaintiff urges him to present to Congress. Plaintiff's claims against the Senator based on this allegation are subject to dismissal on jurisdictional grounds and for failure to state a claim. This resolution would authorize the Senate Legal Counsel to represent Senator RUBIO in order to seek dismissal of the claims against him.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mrs. GILLIBRAND. Mr. President, I have 8 requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate.

They have the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

The Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, July 15, 2021, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, July 15, 2021, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, July 15, 2021, at 10:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, July 15, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, July 15, 2021, at 10:15 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session

of the Senate on Thursday, July 15, 2021, at 9 a.m., to conduct a hearing on executive business.

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

The Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, July 15, 2021, at start of the first vote, to conduct a hearing on nominations.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

The Special Committee on Aging is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, July 15, 2021, at start of the first vote, to conduct a hearing.

APPOINTMENTS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, pursuant to 14 U.S.C. 194(a), as amended by Public Law 101-595, and upon the recommendation of the Democratic Leader, appoints the following Senators to the Board of Visitors of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy: The Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL), Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation; and The Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL), At Large.

NATIONAL CYBERSECURITY PREPAREDNESS CONSORTIUM ACT OF 2021

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 73, S. 658.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the bill by title. The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 658) to authorize the Secretary of Homeland Security to work with cybersecurity consortia for training, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 658) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed as follows:

S. 658

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "National Cybersecurity Preparedness Consortium Act of 2021".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act—

(1) the term "consortium" means a group primarily composed of nonprofit entities, including academic institutions, that develop, update, and deliver cybersecurity training in support of homeland security;

(2) the terms "cybersecurity risk" and "incident" have the meanings given those terms in section 2209(a) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 659(a));

(3) the term "Department" means the Department of Homeland Security; and

(4) the term "Secretary" means the Secretary of Homeland Security.

SEC. 3. NATIONAL CYBERSECURITY PREPAREDNESS CONSORTIUM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may work with a consortium to support efforts to address cybersecurity risks and incidents.

(b) ASSISTANCE TO THE NCCIC.—The Secretary may work with a consortium to assist the national cybersecurity and communications integration center of the Department (established under section 2209 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 659)) to—

(1) provide training to State and local first responders and officials specifically for preparing for and responding to cybersecurity risks and incidents, in accordance with applicable law;

(2) develop and update a curriculum utilizing existing programs and models in accordance with such section 2209, for State and local first responders and officials, related to cybersecurity risks and incidents;

(3) provide technical assistance services to build and sustain capabilities in support of preparedness for and response to cybersecurity risks and incidents, including threats of terrorism and acts of terrorism, in accordance with such section 2209;

(4) conduct cross-sector cybersecurity training and simulation exercises for entities, including State and local governments, critical infrastructure owners and operators, and private industry, to encourage community-wide coordination in defending against and responding to cybersecurity risks and incidents, in accordance with section 2210(c) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 660(c));

(5) help States and communities develop cybersecurity information sharing programs, in accordance with section 2209 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 659), for the dissemination of homeland security information related to cybersecurity risks and incidents; and

(6) help incorporate cybersecurity risk and incident prevention and response into existing State and local emergency plans, including continuity of operations plans.

(c) CONSIDERATIONS REGARDING SELECTION OF A CONSORTIUM.—In selecting a consortium with which to work under this Act, the Secretary shall take into consideration the following:

(1) Any prior experience conducting cybersecurity training and exercises for State and local entities.

(2) Geographic diversity of the members of any such consortium so as to cover different regions throughout the United States.

(d) METRICS.—If the Secretary works with a consortium under subsection (a), the Secretary shall measure the effectiveness of the activities undertaken by the consortium under this Act.

(e) OUTREACH.—The Secretary shall conduct outreach to universities and colleges, including historically Black colleges and universities, Hispanic-serving institutions, Tribal Colleges and Universities, and other minority-serving institutions, regarding opportunities to support efforts to address cybersecurity risks and incidents, by working with the Secretary under subsection (a).

SEC. 4. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

Nothing in this Act may be construed to authorize a consortium to control or direct any law enforcement agency in the exercise of the duties of the law enforcement agency.